

Message Text

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PAGE 01 JIDDA 04695 051318Z

44

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 OMB-01 IGA-02 /047 W
----- 016630

R 051105Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5204

SECDEF WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L JIDDA 4695

SECDEF FOR ASD/ISA

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION DA WASHDC USMTM DHAHRAN INFO AMEMB JIDDA
REPEATED FOR YOUR INFO

QUOTE

DISTENGR RIYADH SAUDI ARABIA P 011003Z JUL 76

FROM WELLS TO BURNELL

SUBJ: SAUDI ORDNANCE CORPS PROGRAM

1. I MADE A COURTESY CALL ON PRINCE SULTAN, MINISTER OF DEFENSE AND
AVIATION, ON 30 JUN 76, DURING THIS CALL, PRINCE SULTAN BROUGHT
UP THE SUBJECT OF THE TRANSFER OF THE SOCP FROM THE CORPS OF
ENGINEERS TO USMTM.

2. PRINCE SULTAN PRESENTED THE FOLLOWING POINTS:

A. HE FEELS THAT BG AHMANN, CHIEF USMTM, HAS BEEN TOO PERSISTENT IN
TRYING TO HAVE SOCP TRANSFERRED TO USMTM, WITH THE LARGE AMOUNT
OF WORK THAT WILL BE GIVEN TO USMTM, THAT ORGANIZATION WILL BE VERY
BUSY.

B. HE DOES NOT WANT TO TRANSFER SOCP FROM THE CORPS OF ENGINEERS
SINCE "WHEN YOU HAVE A GOOD TEACHER, YOU WILL LOSE TIME IF YOU
TRANSFER THE STUDENT TO ANOTHER TEACHER".

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PAGE 02 JIDDA 04695 051318Z

C. IF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT IS PERSISTENT IN INSISTING THAT
SOCP BE TRANSFERRED, HE WILL GET ANOTHER COUNTRY TO PROVIDE
ASSISTANCE
TO THE SAUDI ORDANCE CORPS.

3. DURING THE CONVERSATION, I POINTED OUT THE LOGIC FOR TRANSFERRING
THE PROGRAM TO USMTM. THIS DID NOT CHANGE THE PRINCE'S VIEW,
AND WAS VERY FIRM IN MAKING THE ABOVE LISTED POINTS. UNQUOTE
PORTER

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NNN

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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04 MAY 2006

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